



Student Visa and U.S. Higher Education
A U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad Face book Chat, held on
June 27th, 2014 from 03:00pm – 04:00pm
Facebook Chat Transcript

US Vice Consul: Welcome to F1 Fridays. I am here to answer any of your student related visa questions.

Student: I've got I20's from UMKC, UT Arlington, UT Tyler...Will you please suggest me which university to shortlist among them I've gone through the course curriculum of all the universities and according to the projects going on and lab facilities UMKC suits my area of interest. But ranking wise UT Arlington is a bit better compared to UMKC would it affect my visa interview??Please suggest me what to do.

US Vice Consul: This is a personal decision that you should make based on the criteria that is important to you, such as course selection, costs, or research opportunities.

Student: I need a piece of advice, on June 16 i got my visa in Chennai for stony brook university as its only i20 i had but now i received an i20 from CSU long beach which is of my interest. Is there any way to go to that university even for the first semester some said yes it should be done after reaching CSU LB as it would be a problem in immigration if it is done now is it true?

US Vice Consul: Selection of which university you would like to go to is a personal decision and you will have to determine which university meets your criteria. We cannot answer questions about transferring universities.

Student: I graduated in 2012 and went to Canada on a student visa to pursue my Post-Graduation but unfortunately having a valid reason I made my withdrawal from the college discontinuing the course and was back to India within few months. Then I have applied to US universities for Master's degree and got admitted for Fall-14 semester. But, I was refused F-1 visa twice for this fall semester. I have also explained the reason for the cessation of study in Canada. The officer says me to prove my credibility as a student. I'm so keen to fulfill my academic goals and this is the great opportunity for me. Please state your valuable suggestion which helps me to get F-1 visa.

US Vice Consul: Consular officers look at the totality of a student's profile during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You should be prepared to talk about your academic past in India and future plans to prove you are a credible, qualified student. An applicant for a student visa (F-1 or M-1) must demonstrate the following:

- Acceptance at a school.
- Possession of sufficient funds.
- Minimum preparation for course of study.
- Present intent to leave the United States at conclusion of studies

US Vice Consul: Applicants who were refused a visa are eligible to reapply; all visa applications are given every consideration consistent with U.S. immigration law. The decision for each application is made based on the circumstances presented at the time of the interview. If you were recently denied a visa, you should be prepared to talk about what has changed in your personal situation that addresses the reason for your visa denial.

Student: Hi sir, i got a star below my photo on my visa, i have noticed many of my friends getting 3 stars. What's the difference between a star and 3 stars, what exactly does it notify, what does this star tell?

US Vice Consul: Visas and passports include many security and quality control features that don't always reflect back on the applicant. In this case, don't let your friend fool you into thinking that one star (or three) is better than one!

Student: Sir actually i am very much interested to study in U.S.A but my visa got rejected thrice for summer intake and one time for fall .Actually i applied for visa for the same university thrice for summer intake as my orientation is very close i did not apply again for summer intake but later i applied to other university for fall and received admits and i changed my university and applied to visa but again my visa got rejected .Is changing a university bad idea?? I changed my university because i found advanced courses.

US Vice Consul: We look at many different criteria when evaluating student visa applicants. Unfortunately, we cannot comment on specific cases in this forum.

Student: Is it compulsory to return to India after my Master's degree?? Can't I continue my education and pursue my PhD later??

US Vice Consul: If you choose to continue your studies in the United States, you will need to apply and be accepted at a university. At that point, you can discuss with the university at which you accepted the process for remaining in status.

Student: as I got i20 from NPU ...indeed I'm booking visa slot on this July...my question is can I get visa on this university...

US Vice Consul: Consular officers look at the totality of a student's profile during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. Please be prepared for your visa interview to address that you meet the following criteria:

- Possession of sufficient funds.
- Minimum preparation for course of study.
- Present intent to leave the United States at conclusion of your studies

Student: I am Naziya I did my intermediate in 2012 after I pass out I got job offer from Apollo hospitals Right now I am working there I have applied for undergraduate study for university of Findlay Ohio and Concordia university Wisconsin, I got accepted for both , my question is Gap in my studies matters in visa interview,

US Vice Consul: Consular officers look at the totality of a student's profile during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. Please be prepared for your visa interview to address that you meet the following criteria:

- Possession of sufficient funds.
- Minimum preparation for course of study.
- Present intent to leave the United States at conclusion of your studies

Student: Is there any simple way to get US working visa

US Vice Consul: Thank you for your post. Unfortunately, this forum is for student-related questions.

Student: sir i had a consideration letter from my university regarding the gre exam my university does not require the gre score they give admission on GPA that is clearly explained on that letter. How can i show this letter visa officer at the time of interview? I had been already rejected for both times planning for 3rd attempt

US Vice Consul: Consular officers look at the totality of a student's profile during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. However, we do not recommend that applicants reapply unless they are able to present significant changes to your circumstances.

Student: Hello Sir, I have some questions for you.

1. Is that mandate to provide the immediate relative details for the F1 Visa Interview?
2. My Univ has mentioned the program of study in I-20 as "Multi/Interdisciplinary/ other", but whereas I've opted for ITM (Information Technology Management). When I spoke to International advisor of the school, he said ITM is a major under "Multi/Interdisciplinary/ other" So, what do I need to mention in DS-160 form? Do I need to provide as it is in the I-20 or can I provide it as ITM instead "Multi/Interdisciplinary/ other"? I'm very confused with this, please help me out.
3. Do we need to show the funds for 2 years program or 1 year program? What if we show for 1 year program?

US Vice Consul: I would suggest that your DS-160 reflect what the I-20 states. As for the funds, during the interview you will need to convince the officer that you have sufficient funds to cover the cost of education.

Student: I have I20 from a good university. But my B.Tech percentage is 62 with 14 backlogs pass out in 2012, I have understood the mistakes I did during my UG and I became more focused on my career from then. I have given all required tests my GRE : 292 and IELTS : 7.0 and I having 2 years of work experience as Software engineer and also did two Microsoft certifications and scored 90 % I did my every best to improve my profile and achieved the above scores. I cannot change my past failures but I will definitely be more focused and concentrate on studies. Can the Visa Officer consider my profile and do I have any chances of studying in US.

US Vice Consul: Lots of questions today about a particular student profile and whether a person has a good chance to qualify for a visa. Unfortunately, I can't give anything more specific than to say that consular officers look at the totality of a student's profile during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You should be prepared to discuss the following:

- Possession of sufficient funds.
- Minimum preparation for course of study.
- Present intent to leave the United States at conclusion of your studies

Student: Sir! I am currently teaching at one of the Central Universities here. I've completed M.Phil. at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and am keen to register myself for doctorate in the U.S. Do I have to follow the same procedure like all other students, or is there a flexible route for me to register?

US Vice Consul: If you would like to get a PHD from a university in the U.S., you will need to follow the same process. First, you will need to receive an admission from a U.S. university. Then you will receive an I-20 and then you can schedule your visa appointment.

Student: I am seeking a F1 Student VISA for a reputed university in the US. My I20 has been processed and is on its way via courier. I will be grateful if you could help me out with the following - I was working in Bangalore for three and a half years. I recently quit my job to spend time with my parents and prepare for my visit to the US. My current address for the past 10 days is Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and will be the same if/till I leave the country as my parents stay here. Can I apply for a VISA interview in Kolkata Consulate? I have relatives staying in Kolkata and it will be easier for me to commute to Kolkata. Or do I have to compulsorily apply for VISA at the Delhi Consulate? Any guidance will be really helpful.

US Vice Consul: You can apply for a visa at whichever consulate is convenient for you.

Student: hello sir.....F1 student visa depends on college reputation or student performance..? Some students said although having good confidence it is not necessary to get visa with some low rank university....is it true?

US Vice Consul: We do not make visa adjudications based on school rankings.

Student: Can we show PF, Shares, policies as financial assets for f1 visa

US Vice Consul: There are not any specific documents that s visa officer needs to see, you will just need to be able to convince the visa officer that you have sufficient funds to cover your education.

US Vice Consul: Thanks again to everyone who participated today. Our next F1 Fridays will take place on July 11th from 3-4 pm.